

Message Text

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PAGE 01 YAOUND 03654 040742Z

22-11

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 /011 W
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R 031825Z NOV 75
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7023

UNCLAS YAOUNDE 3654

DEPT PASS CU/AF KEN CHARD

FROM AMBASSADOR SPIRO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CM
SUBJECT: VICE CHANCELLOR VICTOR NGU, UNIVERSITY OF
YAOUNDE
CAMEROON

1. PLEASE TRANSMIT FOLLOWING LETTER TO ADDRESSEE SOONEST.

DR KENNETH S WARREN, DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF GEOGRAPHICAL MEDICINE
WEARN RESEARCH BUILDING
CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44106

DEAR KENNY:

I WANT YOU TO GET TOGETHER WITH DR VICTOR NGU, VICE CHANCELLOR
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF YAOUNDE, CAMEROON' ONLY ONE, AND WINNER OF A
1972 LASKER AWARD FOR CANCER RESEARCH. I HAVE HEARD IT SAID THAT
HE MAY BE THE FIRST AFRICAN TO WIN A NOBEL PRIZE IN MEDICINE.
BE THAT AS IT MAY, HE IS THE TOP EDUCATOR OF THE COUNTRY,
ANGLOPHONE, AND DELIGHTFUL. HE WILL BE VISITING THE STATES UNDER
AN INTERNATIONAL VISITORS (LEADER) GRANT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
STARTING NOVEMBER 10TH, TO ATTEND THE FOURTH TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE
OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS,
AT THE STATLER HILTON IN BOSTON. FROM THERE HE GOES TO
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WASHINGTON, WHERE HE CAN BE REACHED THROUGH MR KENNETH CHARD

OF THE BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT
OF STATE, TELEPHONE (202) 632-8055.

I HAVE URGED VICTOR TO VISIT YOU, NOT SO MUCH BECAUSE OF
YOUR SCHISTOSOMIASIS FAME, BUT BECAUSE CASE WESTERN RESERVE MAY
HAVE SOMETHING TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THIS
PARTICULAR TRIP. THE UNIVERSITY OF YAOUNDE, WHICH HAS 7,000
STUDENTS, IS PLANNING TO ADD DOCTORAL PROGRAMS AND TO ESTABLISH
A SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY. IT IS ALSO INTERESTED
IN SETTING UP MORE OR LESS PERMANENT RELATIONS WITH ONE OR MORE
AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES. THERE IS ALREADY A CONSIDERABLE HARVARD
CONTRIBUTION TO THE MEDICAL SCHOOL HERE, WHICH JUST GRADUATED ITS
FIRST BATCH OF 30 DOCTORS. YOU TOLD ME OF CASE WESTERN RESERVE'S
INNOVATIONS IN MEDICAL CURRICULA, AND I SUPPOSE THIS MAY EXTEND
TO OTHER FIELDS. IN ANY CASE, YOU AND DR NGU WILL FIND MUCH
IN COMMON, I AM SURE, AND NEITHER OF YOU WILL LOSE ANYTHING BY
SPENDING SOME TIME WITH EACH OTHER. I HAVE SENT SIMILAR INTRO-
DUCTIONS TO THE PRESIDENTS
OF HARVARD, M.I.T., PENNSYLVANIA, THE
ROCKEFELLER AND FORD FOUNDATIONS, SO YOU ARE IN GOOD COMPANY.

QUITE APART FROM ALL THAT, THERE IS SCHISTOSOMIASIS IN
CAMEROON, THOUGH APPARENTLY NOT A TERRIBLE VIRULENT OR DEBILITATING
TYPE. (I JUST HEARD A PROGRAM ON THE VOICE OF AMERICA WHICH TOLD
THE STORY OF THE ST LUCIA PROGRAM BASED ON THE ROCKEFELLER
FOUNDATION'S NEWSLETTER OF AUGUST.) IN ALL OTHER RESPECTS, AS IN
THIS ONE, THE PLACE IS EVEN BETTER THAN I HAD BEEN LED TO
BELIEVE. INTERESTING, PLEASANT, IF SOMETIMES SLIGHTLY STUFFY
PEOPLE. GOOD CLIMATE. COMMODIOUS RESIDENCE, WITH ENOUGH ROOM
FOR VISITORS - YOU ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED. BUT I EXPECT YOU
WILL BE INFECTED BY DR NGU'S ENTHUSIASM, WHICH EXTENDS BEYOND
THE UNIVERSITY, AND THAT OUGHT TO BE ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU WANT TO
COME.

SINCERELY YOURS,

(SIGNED) HERB

AMBASSADOR HERBERT J SPIRO
AMERICAN EMBASSY
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YAOUNDE, CAMEROON
SPIRO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: UNIVERSITIES, MEDICAL DOCTORS, DEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975YAOUND03654
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750382-0263
From: YAOUNDE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751182/aaaacvvv.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 DEC 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 DEC 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <29 JAN 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VICE CHANCELLOR VICTOR NGU, UNIVERSITY OF YAOUNDE
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CM, (NGU, VICTOR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006